

THE DAILY GAZETTE-TIMES

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CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1909

PRICE FIVE CENTS

COUNCIL REFUSES TO PAY THE WATER COMMISSION \$1000 RENTAL DEMANDED

COUNCIL INCLINED TO FEEL THAT CHARGE OF \$100 A MONTH IS MORE THAN TWICE WHAT IT SHOULD BE.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MAKES REPORT AND SAYS THINGS

Figures that Commission Has Really Been Getting From \$125 to \$175 a Month. Names a Number of Expenses that Should be Brought in as Counter Charges. Council Flatly Refuses to Pay \$1000 Back Dues and the Commission Thinks this a Rank Injustice.

The demand of the Water Commission for \$1,000 water rent due for the period from November, 1908, to August, 1909, was refused by the city council at a meeting held last night. The Water Commission claims that it has gone ahead with expensive improvements on the promise that this money would be forthcoming when needed, and is indignant beyond words at this action of the council. At least one member of the commission talks of carrying this fight to the limit.

Not only was this \$1,000 back charge refused last night, but in a report made by the special committee appointed to investigate this matter the \$100 a month was declared to be unreasonable, more than twice as high as it should be, and offsets were claimed. The special committee says in part:

"We have ascertained that the city has furnished to the Water Commission office room in the City Hall and light reasonably worth \$10 per month, and has indirectly paid the Commission on account of water used for sprinkling street intersections \$25 per month during the sprinkling season; also that the city has been compelled to expend considerable sums of money in repairing street openings torn up by the Commission in installing pipe lines and not properly repaired."

"We do not believe that a proper construction of the Water Act would require the Council to transfer money from its general fund to the water fund."

"From a standpoint of policy we would suggest that the payment of reasonable water rates by private consumers will more than take care of all necessary outlays of the Water Commission and that the general finances of the city are on the other hand in a bad condition and we believe that there are many ways in which the general funds of the city could be expended to better purpose than by turning them into the water fund."

"Indirectly the city is paying in addition to street repairs from \$200 to \$250 per year for water. If the Council is of the opinion that a reasonable rate should be paid this should be taken into consideration, as well as the further fact that in arriving at a reasonable rate no element of profit for the operation of the water plant should be considered since it is not entitled to be operated at a profit. In any event we are satisfied from a comparison of the present operating expenses and fixed charges of the water system with its income from other sources that the rate asked is more than twice as high as it should be and that in

the event an allowance is made the Commission should be charged with office rent and light and any allowance made should further cover the cost of water for sprinkling street intersections.

Respectfully submitted,
C. V. JOHNSON,
D. A. OSBURN,
G. A. ROBINSON,
GORDON V. SKELTON."

In a Dilemma
Just now there is a grave doubt as to how the city is going to handle its financial difficulties. It seems to be a fact that the charter makes it illegal to issue a warrant unless the money is on hand to pay it, the city now being on cash basis. The city has no money now, has issued warrants covering the income for the year, and will have no cash until next April. Just where the money to pay the city officials, workmen on street, etc., is to come from is a matter of much conjecture at the present time. The council discussed this matter informally last night and no one seemed to see a way out of the difficulty.

Must Build Walks.
Police Judge Denman was instructed to notify all parties heretofore ordered to construct sidewalks in city limits to construct said walks immediately. This includes Woodcock walk in front of Occidental hotel, and in front of Dille property south of Farmer's hotel.

Oregon Building to Be Permanent

Governor Benson will probably suggest to the next Oregon legislature the idea of taking the Seattle display to Salem. The cost has been figured at about \$10,000, and for this expense two-thirds of the \$100,000 display in the Oregon building could be saved. The elaborate decorations and panorama worked in Oregon grains, the handsome wood panelings and other decorative features of the interior of the Oregon building will be moved intact, if the plan is carried out. It is believed at the close of the exposition the Oregon building will be presented to the State University.

Married

A quiet wedding took place at the Evangelical parsonage on Aug. 3, '09, 8 p. m. when Mr. Emmet W. Elliott and Miss Grace Miller entered into holy wedlock. Both are Benton county young people who have the best wishes of all their friends. The members of the two families were in attendance and E. E. McVicker officiated.

Wanted—Lady solicitor. Call at Kline's Grocery Dep't Thursday.

DESASTRIOUS ACCIDENT IN THE HUB CITY

Standard Oil Johnny's Team Runs Away and Oil Goes up Two Cents.

Mr. Rockefeller met with a terrible set back at 8:48 o'clock, Tuesday, Aug. 3, 1909, in the hub city of the coast, when his Albany oil team ran away with his oil wagon, scattering oil as freely as blood at Malabon, says the Albany Democrat. The team started in the rear of the store of O. S. Rowell, with the oil flowing full force into the measure, and sped westward along the alley, with the oil sprinkling the thoroughfare, past the new Albany State Bank, past the Bussard corner, at Broadalbin street losing a wheel, on the way just missing several hacks in the rear of busy stores, on down to the St. Charles square where, impeded by the loss of the wheel, the team was stopped and the oil shut off; but much had already been spilled.

It is said the result will be a general raise in the price of oil and the complete stopping of college and educational endowments. Naturally such a distinguished runaway caused excitement.

Cottage Grove Improvements

The Cottage Grove council last night passed the paving ordinance to second reading and ordered the purchase of a rock crusher and roller over the mayor's veto. Main street will be paved from the Southern Pacific depot to the bridge, while other streets will be paved and macadamized. Two 20-inch drain pipes will carry the waste water north from the head of Third street to the river.

New Art Store.

Norman L. Hayes, who has been doing artistic sign painting and decorating in this city the past year, will open an art store in the building soon to be vacated by the Elite Millinery. Mr. Hayes will handle artists material, pictures, mechanical apparatus for drawing, pennants, wall papers, and the novelties that are usually to be found in an art store. He will continue his sign work. It is the belief of many that a good art store here will prove a splendid investment, and Mr. Hayes hopes to make the new place worthy of patronage. He will not start out with a \$50,000 stock, but will add to as occasion demands and experience teaches is best. Hayes expects to be ready for business shortly after the first of September.

Wants Lights.

A citizen of Job's Addition makes a very righteous kick about the absence of street light in the vicinity of 11th and Monroe. The street is used by a large number of people and the absence of a light there is a serious inconvenience. There is one of the small incandescents at 12th street but no other light until 15th street is reached. Considering the fact that Job's Addition is the home of hundreds of students and an enterprising populace it would seem that they should be given some electric juice at the earliest time consistent with the condition of the city treasury.

Student Dead.

W. Alfred Toner, son of William Toner, Wells-Fargo messenger on the C. & E., died at the bay last night. He had been ill of typhoid several weeks. Young Toner was an O. A. C. student and was known to many people in this vicinity.

WILL LOOK UP CASCARA BARK IN THIS SECTION

Eastern Buyer Attracted by Oregon Exhibit Will Visit Lincoln.

OREGON BUILDING, A.-Y.-P.-E.—(Special.)—Today representatives of well-known chemical laboratories of the far East, compounders of standard patent remedies, were at headquarters investigating the output of cascara bark of Oregon, the root of the Oregon grape and other roots and herbs from the Coast ranges. One of the investigators after getting pointers on where to go, will at once make a trip into Lincoln and Coos counties to make further investigations of the trade possibilities. One of the callers stated that recently 90,000 pounds of cascara bark had been shipped from London to New York for medicinal compounding. He supposed this was a spurious imitation of the real goods and for the purpose of satisfying himself as to its genuineness, he secured samples and found it was the Oregon bark and that London had become seller and New York buyer through one of the inexplicable romances of trade and barter. Most of the Oregon bark is shipped direct to New York City, but in this case London appeared to have secured all of the available supply in some manner; hence, the cargo had crossed the ocean four times.

Rural Route No. 2

The Henderson Jerseys have arrived and are beauties. They are guaranteed to produce 300 pounds butter fat per year. That's going some.

J. E. Thompson, the enterprising road master for Beaver Creek road district, has purchased his brother Owen Thompson's farm and is moving on to it today.

SENTIMENT OF BUSINESS MEN INTERVIEWED IN REGARD TO NEEDS OF CITY

A PARTICULAR DEMAND FOR SEWERS AT THE EARLIEST DATE POSSIBLE COMES FROM DIFFERENT CITIZENS.

ONE MAN SAYS "CONDEMN SHACKS ON MAIN STREET"

A Variety of Expression in Regard to the Immediate Necessities of the City. All Mention Street Improvement but Some People Think Other Things Might Well Come First. Every Man Interviewed Has a Definite and Clear-cut Idea as to What Should be Done.

Yesterday the Gazette-Times presented the views of various prominent business men in regard to the new charter and the action the city officials should take at the earliest convenient date. The views furnished interesting reading, and other interviews are presented today. The majority of those who gave expression yesterday mentioned street paving on Main as the first necessity. Today the story is varied slightly.

R. H. HUSTON—The charter puts things in such shape that the council can go ahead with much-talked-of improvements and of course we expect them to get busy. Paving and sewers are the paramount issues. But a pipe-line from the mountain intake to the reservoir is also a necessity. I hope to see this come before long. However, this will require a vote.

J. H. HARRIS—It is a credit to our intelligence and spirit that the charter passed. I believe it to be a good thing. The first necessary move should be to get the city's finances into better condition.

A. L. STEVENSON—I say condemn two or three old shacks on Main street. They are eyesores, are filled with vermin, are disease breeders and a disgrace to the city. Condemn dangerous walks on Main street. Put good cement cross-walks where parties have built two cement walks leading to crossings. Let the other improvements come as the people ask for them.

Z. H. DAVIS—Pave Second street and another to the Station. I believe the new charter to be a great thing for the city. After paving the streets we intend to pave, the others should be properly macadamized. The county has a crusher and roller we could probably use and there is good rock very near the city. We can do much improving at no terrific cost. There should be no unseemly hurry, but improvements are a first-class investment.

J. E. MUSGRAVE—I do not know any city or town as far behind in street improvement as Corvallis. We must fix our streets properly if we are to impress people that this is a good place in which to live.

Continued on page two.

We announce the first showing of Fall, 1909, Ladies' Suits

LaVOGUE BRAND

You can secure the newest designs of the foremost style creators---The newest and freshest fashions that are offered anywhere. You will find them remarkably moderate in price.

SEE WINDOW DISPLAY

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